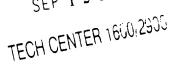


RECEIVED SEP 1 2 2002





Patent Docket P3230R1C50

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:

Dan L. Eaton et al.

Serial No.: 10/063570

Filed: 5/2/2002

Group Art Unit: Not yet assigned

Examiner: Not yet assigned

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage, as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Assistant Commissioner of Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231 on

September 3, 2002

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Assistant Commissioner of Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Prior to substantive examination of the above captioned patent application. Applicants respectfully request that the following amendments be entered.

In the specification:

Please delete the paragraph at page 1, line 2, that was previously added by preliminary amendment.

Please insert the following new paragraph at page 1, line 2:

-- RELATED APPLICATIONS

This application is a continuation of, and claims priority under 35 USC §120 to, US Application 10 006867 filed 12 6 2001, which is a continuation of, and claims priority under 35 USC §120 to, PCT Application PCT US00 23328 filed 8 24 2000, which claims priority under 35 USC \$119 to US Provisional Application 60 170262 filed 12 9 1999.--